Community Wants To Change Counties

24 Feb 1988

Bench Creek residents are signing a petition to move county boundaries so they can be in Summit rather than Wasatch County. One of the residents, Tom Clyde, said he is presenting the proposal to both commissions so that they can work out reasonable and practical boundaries.

He told the County Commission last week that one of the main reasons for the request is that children in the area attend Summit County schools, although the people live and pay taxes in Wasatch. Wasatch pays into the Summit School fund in such cases and the uniform school fund pretty well evens out the finances, but they feel the school board is less responsive to them than if they were able to vote. Another problem is that it isn't practical for Wasatch County to travel that distance to collect trash, even if countywide collection goes into effect, and they can't request it from Summit, although it's available.

Commissioner Pete Coleman said, "There's a lot more involved than just voting to annex the area [illegible] Summit County. There is a boundary problem. Zoning [illegible]ly a significant part of this, between Wasatch and Summit Counties."

Clyde agreed, adding that school and fire districts, as well as county services, i.e. road maintenance and snow removal, would also be affected.

He said permanent resident voters in both counties will determine whether or not the change is made rather than the commissions and he hopes to get it on the November 1988 ballot.

The commissioners agreed to the principle of the proposal and to research the boundary problems.